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fornia, Iowa, New York, Oregon, Virginia, and Wisconsin. The taxation of public service corporations by the gross earnings method is strongly urged in papers by Mr. Alfred Holcombe and Mr. Allen Foote. Mr. Foote presents also the novel plan of a state tax on local government incomes as a substitute for the state general property tax, while Mr. William Corbin advocates the plan of apportionment of state taxes on the basis of local revenues. Professor Bullock presents the arguments for and against local option in taxation and comes to a conclusion adverse to it. Problems of administration occupy a prominent place. The conference adopted resolutions in favor of central supervision, the separate assessment of land and buildings, and the use of standard units of measurement as a basis of valuation.

E. T. MILLER.

Verhandlungen der Generalversammlung in Nürnberg 9 und 10. 10. 1911. I. Fragen der Gemeindebesteuerung mit Berichten von WALT. LOTZ und WALT. BOLDT. II. Probleme der Arbeiterpsychologie unter besondere Rücksichtnahme auf Methode und Ergebnisse der Vereinserhebungen mit einer Bericht von H. HERKNER. Schriften der Vereins für Sozialpolitik, 138. (Munich: Duncker & Humblot. 1912. Pp. v, 215. 5 m.)

Die Tarifverträge im Jahre 1910. Kaiserliches statistisches Amt. (Berlin: Heymann. 1911.)

Population and Migration

The Immigration Problem. By JEREMIAH W. JENKS and W. JETT LAUCK. (New York: Funk and Wagnalls Company. 1912. Pp. xvi, 496. \$1.75.)

The United States Immigration Commission during 1907-1911 expended nearly a million dollars and collected a great mass of data dealing with various aspects of immigration; and its report, in 42 volumes, is now issuing from the press. Professor Jenks of Cornell was a member of the commission, and Dr. Lauck, formerly of Washington and Lee University, was its industrial expert. Professor Jenks had previously conducted several industrial investigations, and not long ago made a report to the government on oriental immigration to the Pacific coast.

The present volume is an attempt to classify the more important material collected by the commission, and to compress it into a convenient popular handbook. It is obvious that such a desirable undertaking must have marked limitations. In order to sum up all the different lines of investigation and their relations to each other, elaborate discussion of any topic was impossible, and only necessary comments could be given. In view of this fact, it must

be said that the sketch of the commission's work is very complete, nearly every aspect of the immigration question being at least mentioned. Since the report of the Industrial Commission, in 1901, the subject has received much study; and the present volume gives not merely the latest statistics, but some new topics, and the elaboration of many old ones.

The topic most fully treated is that of the immigrant in industry, there being chapters on manufacturing and mining communities, the immigrant in agriculture, the status of immigrants in industries, the floating labor supply, and the immigrant as a dynamic factor in industry. Special attention is given to rates of wages and to housing conditions. Other topics, comparatively new, are immigrant banks, and the agencies of protection, assimilation, and distribution. Lastly, conditions on the Pacific coast and oriental immigration receive the benefit of Professor Jenks' personal investigations and conclusions. The other subjects treated, such as causes of immigration, assimilation, and legislation, follow more closely the lines of previous works. A very influential cause of immigration, namely, the tariff, is not mentioned at all.

The contrast between the "old immigration," which arrived before 1883, and the "new immigration," which has come since, insisted on as most important by previous writers, is given due weight throughout the work. But in the opinion of the authors, whatever immigration problem there may be—and they hold that there is one—is economic and not social or racial. Hence the emphasis on the immigrant in industry, on the displacing of native labor, and on the danger to the standard of living. Very little is said about heredity, and eugenics is not mentioned. To give such exclusive prominence to the economic factors, seems to the writer fundamentally erroneous. It is true that, from the practical and political points of view, economic effects of bad immigration are among the most conspicuous; but the instincts and habits which cause a low standard of living, willingness to underbid native labor, and migratory habits, are matters of race and inheritance. One cannot imagine men of the Baltic race being willing to live as do many of our recent immigrants, no matter how poor they might be. Against this view is the argument that such tendencies are only temporary, and attention is called in one chapter to the investigations of Professor Boas,

tending to show modifications in the skulls of immigrant children. Many biologists dispute Boas' conclusions; and it would still have to be proved that changes in the skull involve changes in character.

The figures for crime (p. 54) and for school children (pp. 283-285) are not worked out with reference to population, only the absolute figures or percentages being given. The authors seem, also, unduly optimistic over the working of the present law. On page 27 they say, "with very rare exceptions every immigrant admitted to this country is now in good health"; and, as to mental defectives (p. 47), "the present law on this point seems to be satisfactory." They also speak, on page 44, of the fines on steamships as having made the transportation of diseased aliens unprofitable. The testimony of the Commissioner of Immigration at New York, and of the New York state officials, is directly contrary on all these points. The fines on the steamships foot up each year to a large amount; and, in a recent case within the writer's knowledge, of 300 aliens certified as defective by the examining surgeons, all but 3 were landed. Hence the reference (p. 326) to "the present rather rigid enforcement of the laws" seems to the writer unfortunate. The authors also fail to give due weight to the objections to distribution of immigrants, in the absence of more restrictive legislation, which were clearly set forth in the last report of the Commissioner-General.

The probability of new legislation may account for the insertion of the text of the pending Dillingham bill instead of that of the present law; and lack of space, for the absence of any bibliography. The statistical appendix contains many useful tables.

PREScott F. HALL.

The Declining Birth-Rate: Its National and International Significance. By ARTHUR NEWSHOLME. New Tracts for the Times. (New York: Moffatt, Yard and Company. 1911. Pp. 60. \$.50.)

Within the compass of this slight booklet Dr. Newsholme has dealt successively with three aspects of the problem of the reduced birth-rate. He presents at the outset evidence of the rates of natural increase at different recent periods and in different countries, using for this purpose figures as far as possible cleared of fallacy by his now well-known method of birth-rate correction.